Sunderrajan Committee report on road safety

†1337. SHRI. SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the report of Sunderrajan Committee on road security was received by Government;

(b) the recommendations made by the Sunderrajan Committee;

(c) by when Government would implement the said report of Sunderrajan Committee in order to minimize road accidents and to provide security to the general public; and

(d) the reasons for not implementing the recommendations of the Committee till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SIDPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) This Ministry has not constituted any such committee namely Suderrajan Committee on road security. However, a committee on Road Safety and Traffic Management was setup under the chairmanship of Shri S. Sundar, former Secretary, the erstwhile Ministry of Surface Transport, which submitted its report to the Government on 20.2.2007.

(b) The main recommendations of Sundar Committee on Road Safety and Traffic Management include creation of a National Road Safety and Traffic Management Board through an Act of Parliament, creation of a dedicated road safety fund, enabling provision for creation of state level boards etc.

(c) and (d) The process for accepting the report and implementing its recommendations is a lengthy one. Hence no definite time frame for implementation of the recommendations of the Sundar Committee on Road Safety and Traffic Management can be envisaged at this stage.

Accidents on NH-9 and NH-18

1338. SHRI M.V.MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the highest number of accident ooCur in the country on NH-9 and NH-18;

(b) the reasons for not converting the two National Highways into four-lane roads;"

(c) whether inspite of informing about DBR for the past two years, not even a single project has been grounded, whereas in Tamil Nadu, the projects of Dindivanam-Trichy-Madurai, Madurai-Dindigal have been completed; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the present status of the NH-9 and NH-18 and the time-frame by which the above Highways are likely to be converted into four-lane roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The details of road accidents are available only State-wise and not National Highway (NH)-wise. As per road accidents data available for the year 2005 (latest available), 37,131 accidents were reported in Andhra Pradesh out of the total 4,39,255 accidents that occurred in the entire country.

(b) to (d) NH-9 starts from Pune in Maharashtra, passes through Kamataka and terminates at Machilipatnam in Andhra Pradesh and is having a total length of 873 km. NH-18 starts from Chittoor and terminates at Kurnool in Andhra Pradesh and is having a total length of 360 km. Four-Ianing of NH-9 and NH-18 is being considered in a phased manner depending upon traffic requirements and availability of funds. Out of the total length of 873 km of NH-9, a length of 143 km is already 4/6 lane, 31 km is in progress and 495 km is proposed under NHDP Phase-III/BOT. As regards NH-18, out of its total length of 360 km, four laning is in progress in a length of 7 km and a length of 192 km is proposed under NHDP Phase-Ill The work of four-Ianing under NHDP Phase-Ill will be awarded after the approval of Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC) and the target date for completion is by the year 2013.

Grants for NHs in Assam

1339. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be please to state:

(a) the details of financial grants sanctioned, released and actually utilized by Government under the construction of various National Highways in the country particularly in Assam, during the last three years, State-wise/NH-wise;

(b) whether the above funds have been utilized by the States;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (c) Allocations of funds to the States are made only for improvement works on the existing National Highways entrusted to the State Governments and are made State-wise and not National Highway-wise. State-wise allocation and expenditure of funds for improvement of National Highways in the country including Assam during the last three years are given in the Statement *{See* below).

(d) There have been some short falls in few States. Reasons for under-utilization of allocated funds by some of the States have been prolonged rainy season, availability of less working season, delay in land acquisition, delay in shifting of utilities, law and order, problems, poor performance by some contractors, etc.